

## THE POLYNESIAN.

"PRO BONO PUBLICO."

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1840.

In establishing a newspaper at these Islands, among so sparse a foreign population, some of whom doubt its expediency, and amid so many conflicting opinions and interests, resulting from difference of nation, religious belief, language and education, and from the accumulated prejudices of years of mutual estrangement, the editor may well be pardoned for a feeling of distrust and diffidence of his own abilities to succeed in such an undertaking. That all the jarring elements which have here so long held their sway, can be reconciled, and brought into one harmonic action, is more than man can be allowed to hope,—but that they may be so directed as to conduce to the common weal is not an unreasonable expectation.

Situated as we are in the North Pacific, on a beautiful Archipelago, fast developing its great natural resources, and becoming a focus of civilization, and surrounded by islands and countries springing, almost Minerva like, into the rank of civilized nations, or on the borders of those empires, whose exclusive policy is rapidly wearing away before the more powerful friction of greater civilization, we hold an interesting point; one which may be made conducive to great and important results—results which shall be acknowledged with pride and pleasure by coming generations.

This part of the globe, and these islands particularly, are rapidly drawing the attention of the older countries, and all that tends to develop their greatness, or throw light upon their condition and history attracts general notice. With all the publications with which of late the literary world has been filled upon these subjects, much ignorance and misunderstanding has spread also. In no way can knowledge be so accurately given, as when published upon its own ground, and from the pens of those whose circumstances render them careful and critical observers.

This paper is the organ of no sect or party; strictly confining its objects to its legitimate purposes—it will not flinch from or fail to act upon the principles upon which it is established—"Pro bono publico," is the motto of its banner, and its objects are the dissemination of knowledge, advancement of education and civilization, promotion of good morals, and the commercial and agricultural interests of the Sandwich Island community. Those immutable principles of justice and religion, which are or should be firmly planted in every man's understanding, will be its guide; and though it adopts the tenets of no peculiar sect, it will defend the sacred rights of all—freedom of the press and conscience. Though deprecating useless controversy, its columns will be open to subjects of moment, on which various opinions may arise, and the discussion of which would elicit arguments of merit, and usefulness. But they must be of an elevated character, avoiding scurrility, personalities or any thing tending to excite without improving the community. Principles not men, must be borne in view—also that the object

of this paper is to elevate the taste, and promote a unity of feeling and interests among its patrons.

The classes and avocations of the Sandwich Island community being almost as various as its members, the paper to meet the wants and tastes of all, must embrace a wide range of topics. Also the desires of foreign countries to obtain local, and historical, and statistical information of the country we inhabit, its peculiar habits or customs, productions or improvements must be constantly borne in mind. A design so extended must at times cause it to be superficial on subjects which can only be properly treated by having some one of abilities solely directed to those specific subjects. Still we hope to make to make the paper useful, and that all will find in its pages some thing to please or instruct. It will endeavor to combine the utility of a commercial paper, with the more solid matter of the periodical, enlivened by the lighter and more amusing topics of a purely literary gazette.

A paper of this nature must depend for much of its interest and usefulness upon the community. In few places are gathered together so great a proportion of travelers, voyagers, or those whose business has led them over much of the earth's surface. All these possess information, curious and interesting to their neighbors, who in return can relate some profitable experience of their own; thus all by contributing their mites add greatly to the common stock. Those settled on the various islands of the group, and on the neighboring continents, are daily becoming acquainted with much that would prove useful and entertaining. Mind by being made to act on mind brightens, as diamond is polished only by friction with diamond. Nothing would enhance more the value of a sheet like this, than being made the medium of such communications. We appeal to the residents, to missionaries of all denominations, travelers, and all those who feel an interest in the growth and prosperity of their adopted countries, in which we feel second to none, to aid us in rendering this paper to realize the most sanguine wishes of its friends. If left solely to the care of a young and inexperienced editor, it must soon become stale and unprofitable, and thus defeat its object.

With this appeal to the public, doubting not but it will meet with a hearty response, the editor makes his bow, trusting we all shall improve upon acquaintance.

## SHIPWRECKED JAPANESE.

There are in the town, under the care of Dr. Judd, four Japanese who were taken by a whaleship from the wreck of a junk, on which they had been driven about, by wind and wave, for many months and suffered great hardships. Their story is full of interest, and which we hope to receive for a future number, from Dr. Baldwin of Maui, in whose family the most intelligent of their number has resided for some time. They are now here with the hope of obtaining a passage to their own country, either by way of Kamschatka, or through the Expedition. Some of the coin which they brought with them is in circulation in the village, consisting of gold and silver pieces, of an oblong shape, from the value of a real to four dollars, and very neatly stamped.

## HAWAIIAN COLL. CHH. MUSIC.

A book with the above title has been placed in our hands by the Compiler, Mr. Calkin. The binding and typographical work was done altogether by natives, and reflects great credit upon their skill. It is neatly got up, the selection is good, and it will doubtless do much toward exciting a more correct musical taste in our community, besides producing that great desideratum, a uniformity of knowledge of tunes, adapted for church worship.

SERAPHINA.—Through the liberality of some of the residents, the Chapel has been presented with an instrument of the above name. It is made on the principle of an accordeon, but in sound resembling the organ. It adds much to the interest of the religious exercises, and has already given a spur to the dormant musical powers of many, which we trust will result in some decided improvement in our sacred music. Meetings twice a week, for practice, are now held at the chapel by the votaries of harmony, and the only fear is, that the zeal of the choir will finally overpower the lighter strains of the seraphina.

HAWAIIAN ENGRAVING.—Several views of Hawaiian scenery have been handed us by Mr. Andrews, of the High School, Lahainaluna. They are of Lahaina, Kailua, Kaahiwaloa, and other places—executed on copper, by scholars of that Seminary. They are said to be accurate, by judges, and certainly manifest strong native talent for the art, which more instruction and better materials to work upon, would develop into proficiency, and produce engravings which would not disgrace a boudoir in the United States.

ACCIDENT.—We regret to learn that a little boy some days since had his arm caught into the rollers of a sugar mill in Nuuanu valley, and before it could be extricated it was crushed to the shoulder joint. The parents refused to have it amputated, preferring their native remedies. He has since died.

## ITEMS.

Queen Victoria has announced to Parliament her intended marriage with Prince Albert of Saxe Coburg.

Late papers from the U. S. mention the death of John Jacob Astor, of N. York, leaving an immense wealth—Rumor says ninety millions of dollars—but probably much nearer nine.

The bark Flora sailed Jan. 7th, from New-York for Valparaiso, and Honolulu.—Rev. John Diell, passenger.

A large fleet of ships were fitting out from England, Nov. 1839, to blockade China.

We have received Sidney papers up to Dec. 1839. They contain but little of interest. Nov. 4th, the U. S. Store Ship Relief, arrived—Capt. Long.

The Australian of Dec., mentions the death of Mr. Williams, author of "Missionary Enterprises in the South Seas." He was cut off with a Mr. Har-

ris, in attempting to land at Erromango, one of the New Hebrides, by the savages.

One of the "on dits," about town is, that Prince Eugene of Savoy, eldest son of the king of Sardinia, is expected at these islands shortly, in the Sardinian frigate La Reine. La Reine was at Rio Janeiro when the Lausanne left that port. Letters addressed to the Prince are here awaiting his arrival.

We have received papers by the Don Quixote, from the U. S. up to March 21st, from which we have barely time to glean the following news.

Queen Victoria was married Feb. 10th, to Prince Albert of Saxe Gotha.

The Constellation frigate, sloops Concord and Preble, are fitting with all possible despatch at Charlestown navy yard, Mass., for the East India station—ordered out on account of the China troubles.

The boundary question is still a bone of contention. Fortifications are being erected, along the frontiers, by both parties; but probably with no immediate war-like intentions.

[Extract from the N. Y. Journal of Commerce.]

North-eastern Boundary.—The dispute between the United States and Great Britain, in reference to the North-eastern Boundary, is attracting attention in England. "If the course we pursue says the London Shipping Gazette 'in the dispute with China be found to be injurious to American commerce there are elements already at work of a character sufficiently inflammable to render them not over fastidious punctilious at finding out some real imaginary line of distinction to draw between our proceedings and the French blockades in South America. We question, therefore, if we are over and above secure against being involved in a quarrel with the United States, if we proceed to blockade of the ports of the Celestial Empire without declaring war. At events, it will be wise in ministers act with circumspection, and weigh well the probable consequences, before they are so far committed that they can not retreat without a sacrifice principle."

The negroes captured in the Antislavery, have been declared free.

News of the visit of l'Artemis to the Sandwich Islands, reached U. S. Feb. last.

## DEATHS.

DIED at Koloa, Kauai, May 17, Elizabeth S. aged 35, wife of P. A. Brinsmead Esq. U.S. Consul for the Sand. Islands.

Drowned at sea, from the wreck of the S. I. schooner Keola, R. Thompson, a native of the U. States.

## PASSENGERS.

Per. Brig Hebe—Mrs. Anderson  
" Brig Clementine—Bishop of Nilopolis,  
Mess. Maigret.—Desvaut and Heursel.  
" Sch. Morse—Mr. H. Paty.  
" Ship North America—Mr. F. A. Olmstead  
" " Active—Mrs. Brooks.  
" " Konohassett—Mess. Raymond and Step  
" " Don Quixote—Mess. Levi Chamberlain  
F. Johnson.